

REMARKS

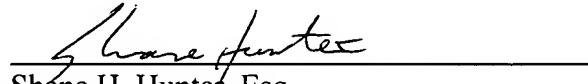
In response to the Office Action dated March 9, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration.

The Examiner noted that the application is identified as a divisional application but appears to be a continuation. Applicant has cancelled without prejudice all original claims except claims 31-35, which are the claims of Group III as specified in a Restriction Requirement dated September 16, 2002 for U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 09/910,287, from which the present application claims priority. Therefore, Applicant believes the present application is correctly identified as a divisional application.

Claims 1-39 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-25 of U.S. Patent No. 6,624,390. Claims 1-30 and 36-39 have been cancelled without prejudice rendering the rejection of these claims moot. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicant is concurrently submitting a Terminal Disclaimer disclaiming the patent term beyond the term of the '390 patent. Thus, Applicant asserts that the double patenting rejection of claims 31-35 is overcome as suggested by the Examiner.

Applicant has added new claims 40-44. No new matter is introduced by these claims and Applicant believes these claims to be allowable.

Based on the foregoing, this application is believed to be in allowable condition, and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the Applicant's Attorney at the number provided below with any questions.

  
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